

## ROMER HAD BEEN ACCUSED

WOMEN MENTIONED IN LETTERS  
IN MURDERED MAN'S ROOM.

But the Police Couldn't Learn Anything of Value From Them—Orange Undertaker Said He Was "Mad Clean Through" at Somebody the Day Before the Crime.

The murder of Frederick R. Romer of Orange, N. J., remains the same mystery which loomed before the police on Friday morning, when the body of the undertaker was discovered in his room in the Park Hotel in that city. All day yesterday police, friends and newspaper men went over all the promising ground, and when the rumors and rumors of rumors had been sifted out little remained which shed new light on the problem.

The point developed yesterday which supported strongly the theory that the motive of the murder was one of revenge was in a statement made by Mrs. John Decker, one of the guests at the hotel. She sat next to Mr. Romer at luncheon on Thursday, the last luncheon Mr. Romer ate. He seemed depressed and worried, she said yesterday. After speaking to him several times Mrs. Decker said she began to become interested.

"What's the matter with you?" she asked him. "You seem to have a grouse on about something."

The undertaker looked up. "I am a little worried, and mad clean through," he said, according to Mrs. Decker. "It's enough to make anybody sore to be accused of something you had nothing to do with."

Romer acted very nervous, Mrs. Decker said, and wore what she said might be described as a hunted look, but he said nothing further as to the accusation against him, and nothing as to whether he had received a letter or whether he had been having words with a person face to face.

"At dinner that night," said Mrs. Decker, "I tried to cheer him up by saying I thought he looked a little more cheerful. He was with his daughter, and he smiled as he said, 'Yes, I do think I feel a little better.'"

The police, with Chief George Washer at their head, are fully convinced that jealousy was the motive and soon the theory of robbery as the motive. They feel that the statement of Mrs. Decker supports their view of the case and spent yesterday in a search for women friends of Mr. Romer.

In the bunch of letters found in the murdered man's room and taken possession of by the police there were references to nine women. Eight of these live in Orange or in nearby towns and were seen early by detectives. Nothing was learned from them to help in the solution of the mystery. The ninth woman, whose name the police were sure of, was a woman who lived in Manhattan, and County Detective Mason saw her early last evening. Her statement was of no more use than that obtained from the other women seen, he said.

There was a rumor yesterday that a Newark man who had been interested in a woman who had been a friend of Mr. Romer, and whom Mr. Romer had thought of marrying. By these unbridled reports it was said that the woman had been spoken of lightly in letters written to Romer by the Newark man and the woman had been much incensed over her consequent dismissal by Romer. To the police this looked like an attempt to make a story which would fit in with the circumstances in the case.

A second development yesterday was the discovery that Romer's new overcoat, which he had worn on the night of the murder, was missing. This overcoat was made by a tailor of Orange named Brodie, who has given the police an accurate description of the coat and samples of the cloth. These have been sent to the police of New York and of various towns in Jersey. The advocates of the robbery theory insist that the theft of the coat is a sure support of their contention. On the other hand those who believe that Romer was murdered out of jealousy point out that the murderer's clothing probably was more or less bloodstained and that perhaps he took a precaution against recognition by covering his stained clothes with the dark coat. The coat is described as a box model, extending to half way between the knees and the feet, made of a black glossy having a dark, almost invisible, stripe.

Chief of Police Washer gave out a long statement yesterday in which he reviewed the circumstances of the crime and indicated the grounds upon which he based his theory of the murder. There are two alternative views, according to Washer. The man was either lying in wait in Romer's room, or Romer, after undressing, opened the door to a knock from the murderer. There is no doubt, according to the chief, that Romer was first struck from behind with a tool in the nature of a hammer or light hatchet.

The person committing the crime must have been very powerful, as the county physician says that Romer's skull was of unusual thickness and the blows penetrated it. The motive, according to Washer, was one of jealousy, and he is inclined to believe the murderer found and got away with. The disappearance of the ring, Mr. Washer considers of no special significance, except as a blind to hide the true motive.

The halls of the hotel are well carpeted. No footprints or fingerprints which could be of value to the police were discovered there or elsewhere. There are fingerprints in blood on the mattress of the bed, but the consensus of the majority of these prints is of no use for identification purposes.

Another statement which bore out that made by Mrs. Decker was made yesterday by Mayor Isaac Shoemaker, who says he passed Romer's office early on Thursday evening and saw the undertaker gazing out on the street with a "troubled look" on his face. Mr. Shoemaker says he noted this peculiarly because of the usually smiling, buoyant nature of the undertaker.

Mr. Weatherhead, partner of Mr. Romer, says he noticed on Wednesday that Mr. Romer seemed to be affected at a funeral, a fact which was contrary to the man's nature, when he was not particularly interested in the deceased. From all these statements it seems clearly indicated that Mr. Romer had something pressing on his mind and that perhaps he had premonitions of what was going to be his fate.

This notice was yesterday sent out by Councilman Thomas A. Davis: Frederick R. Romer, a business man of Orange, was murdered in a most disastrous manner in this city yesterday. The circumstances of the murder were of such a character as to shock the whole community. The citizens of Orange are thoroughly aroused over the crime and are determined that nothing shall be left undone to bring the murderer to justice. I have taken the liberty of calling a meeting of citizens for this evening, Saturday, at 8 o'clock, at the National Bank Building, for the purpose of aiding in the detection of the murderer. Kindly attend if you are interested and nothing prevents.

The meeting was well attended and the citizens present pledged themselves to raise a fund of \$1,000 to be offered as a reward for the arrest and conviction of the murderer. It was also decided to recommend to the Common Council the offering of a reward on behalf of the city.

A committee of five was appointed to cooperate with the authorities engaged in the investigation. A fund of \$750 was immediately pledged at the meeting. A committee was appointed to raise the balance of \$250.

The first reward to be offered by private individuals was made public yesterday. It is of \$50 and is offered by Mrs. Andrew Bauser, widow of the superintendent of the Lackawanna Railroad, at whose funeral Mr. Romer was the master of ceremonies. The reward is offered out of gratitude for Mr. Bauser's kindness to the widow at that time.

Many of the servants employed in the hotel are negroes. None of these working there recently is missing. There was one West Indian discharged two years ago for theft, who has since served a term in a Jersey prison, and who was recently discharged for short changing a patron.

## Facts

**WILL** keep you in the path of good health and robustness, and impart vigor and refreshing solace to both brain and body.

Cheese, Hops, Restaurants, Saloons and Dealers.

The police do not attach any suspicion to these men.

A bit of humor was injected into the situation yesterday when a rumor spread that a negro had recently been found under a bed in one of the rooms. It was discovered that a very small and very black boy who had been in the habit of delivering laundry to some patrons of the hotel in their rooms was the culprit in question. He had been surprised in what seemed to be an attempt to get away with some trifles from the room of a man guest of the hotel and had been "booted" down the stairs.

The funeral of Mr. Romer will be held from the Grace Episcopal Church, Orange, to-morrow, December 16, at 2 o'clock. The Rev. Charles T. Walker, rector of the church, will conduct the services. He will be assisted by the Rev. Dr. Charles Townsend, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Orange. Interment will be in the Rosedale Cemetery, Orange, in the family plot where Mr. Romer's father and mother are buried.

## POLICE CLUB WOMEN STRIKERS

Who Attacked Their Successors in Williamsburg—Two Girls Arrested.

More than thirty young women of the 220 who are on strike from the Argyle Manufacturing Company's white goods factory, at Lorimer street and Throop avenue, Williamsburg, attacked many of the new operators who had taken their places at Broadway and Lorimer street yesterday and before the disturbance was stopped by the police several of the strikers and their sympathizers were clubbed and two of the women were arrested.

The strike began three weeks ago, when the company, after reducing the working force in that factory and in another it operated at Meserole and Leonard streets, made a slight reduction in wages. Those employees, all women and girls, who were retained in the Lorimer street factory went on strike and when the company engaged new operators the strikers threatened and intimidated them. There were several fights, and about ten days ago the police, after clubbing some of the strikers, arrested nine. In the Leo avenue police court on Friday all were discharged.

After leaving the court house they went to the neighborhood of the factory, where they waited until their successors quit work and then when they reached the street they attacked them. It was alleged that several of the new employees were severely injured. The disturbance had ended by the time the police reached the scene.

There was a renewal of the disorder yesterday morning, and while the fight was at its height policemen who recognized nearly all the strikers prodded them with their clubs and after dispersing them they arrested Annie Kleinberg, 18 years old, of 374 Steeg street, and Lena Goh, 18 years old, of 324 Bushwick avenue. They were held at the Cuyler street police station on charges of disorderly conduct.

## GAVE WITNESSES \$1 IN COURT.

Shipping Clerk Found Guilty of Contempt, but Is Discharged.

Walter J. Wright, head shipping clerk for the Havemeyer & Elder Sugar Refining Company, was adjudged guilty of contempt of court by Judge Chatfield in the United States District Court, Brooklyn, yesterday and was then discharged.

On December 4 Mr. Wright and several other witnesses were summoned to give testimony in connection with the fraudulent weighing of sugar at the docks of the company. During the recess hour Wright found several of the witnesses and gave them each \$1 for dinner. To those whom he did not meet at the time he gave the money in the court room. It was held at the time that he was trying to corrupt the witnesses.

Judge Chatfield held that technically the payments made by Wright constituted contempt of court, but as it had not been shown that Wright had intended to corruptly influence the testimony of the witnesses he would discharge him.

Oliver Spitzer, the dock superintendent, who has been indicted again, charged with the offering of a bribe to a Government official in connection with the fraudulent weighing of sugar, pleaded not guilty and was held in \$5,000 bail and his hearing was set down for January 9.

## WALKER AND WIRE TAPPERS.

Arrested Banker Likely to Be a Witness Against Fellow Crook.

William F. Walker, the treasurer of the New Britain Savings Bank, who has been arrested in Lower California for stealing about \$50,000 from the bank, will be brought here, according to the information at the office of the Pinkertons yesterday. Walker may be used as a witness against Charles L. Gondolph, who is accused of selling \$50,000 of the bonds stolen by Walker to the New Amsterdam Bank. According to the District Attorney's information Walker was induced by Gondolph and other so-called wire tappers to enter into a scheme to loot the bank's vaults.

Gondolph's trial has been set for next month in General Sessions.

## The Weather.

The storm from the central Gulf States moved northeastward yesterday, attended by heavy rain in the lower Mississippi States and then eastward over all the Atlantic States from Florida to New York. Rain and snow fell in the Ohio Valley and in the middle Atlantic States. Snow fell in the Lake region and the New England States and rain and snow in the upper Mississippi and Missouri valleys.

The storm became severe over the Lake regions and thence eastward to the middle Atlantic and New England coast, with fog in the morning, the wind blowing a gale on shore.

The weather was fair in the Southwest and Rocky Mountain States, and in the Pacific. There was a general rise of temperature in nearly all parts of the country, especially in the Atlantic States. In this city there was a light rain in the morning, turning into rain, which continued throughout the day; fog in the morning, with high, northeast winds, average humidity, 83 per cent; barometer, corrected to sea level, at 8 A. M., 30.13; at 2 P. M., 30.25.

The temperature yesterday, as recorded by the official thermometer, is shown in the annexed table:

For New England, snow in northern and clearing in southern portion to-day; partly cloudy to-morrow; high shifting winds on the coast.

For eastern Pennsylvania, rain to-day, possibly snow in northern portion; fair to-morrow; brisk northwesterly winds.

For New Jersey and Delaware, rain followed by fair to-day; fair to-morrow; brisk northwesterly winds.

For the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia, partly cloudy to-day; fair to-morrow; fresh variable winds, mostly westerly.

For western New York, more heavy and cold, to-morrow; variable winds, becoming northwesterly and brisk.

For western Pennsylvania, rain or snow and clearing to-day; more heavy to-morrow; brisk northwesterly winds.

For the Gulf States, fair to-day; fair to-morrow; fresh variable winds, mostly westerly.

For the South Atlantic States, fair to-day; fair to-morrow; fresh variable winds, mostly westerly.

For the Florida peninsula, fair to-day; fair to-morrow; fresh variable winds, mostly westerly.

For the Gulf of Mexico, fair to-day; fair to-morrow; fresh variable winds, mostly westerly.

For the Caribbean Sea, fair to-day; fair to-morrow; fresh variable winds, mostly westerly.

Until December 24th  
The Store Will Close  
AT SEVEN O'CLOCK

## Saks &amp; Company

Herald Square

Until December 24th  
The Store Will Close  
AT SEVEN O'CLOCK

Announce For Monday, December 16th

### Tailored Suits, Coats and Dresses for Women

AT EXTRAORDINARY PRICE REDUCTIONS.

#### Broadcloth Suits

Fancy striped and assorted plain colors—  
Heretofore \$55.00 to \$65.00 At \$37.50  
Heretofore 39.50 to 48.50 At 29.50  
Heretofore 25.00 to 35.00 At 19.00

#### Velveteen Suits

Assorted plain colors and stripes—  
Heretofore \$45.00 to \$55.00 At \$29.50

#### Broadcloth Princess Dresses

Various models in assorted street and evening shades  
Heretofore \$50.00 At \$29.50  
Heretofore 55.00 to \$60.00 At 33.50  
Heretofore 65.00 to 75.00 At 38.50

#### Evening Coats

Various models of imported broadcloths—  
Heretofore \$75.00 to \$98.00 At \$45.00  
Heretofore 39.50 to 55.00 At 25.00

#### Evening Capes

Full length models of imported broadcloth, in dark or light colors. Heretofore \$35.00 At \$19.00

#### Karakul Cloth Coats

Hip, three-quarter or full length models.  
Heretofore \$25.00 At \$14.00  
Heretofore 39.00 At 22.50  
Heretofore 45.00 At 26.50

#### Broadcloth and Cheviot Coats

Full length models in black only.  
Heretofore \$25.00 to \$29.50 At \$19.00  
Heretofore 35.00 to 39.50 At 25.00  
Heretofore 42.50 to 45.00 At 29.50

#### Riding Habits

Plain and mannish cloths. Regularly \$50.00 At \$25.00

For Monday and Tuesday

#### Tailored Suits

For Girls, Misses and Small Women

Suits of chevots, plain or striped broadcloths, mannish suitings in stripes and checks and chiffon velveteens; a full assortment of colors.

For Girls: Regularly \$15.00 at \$8.75  
Regularly \$20.00 at \$13.50  
Regularly \$25.00 to \$35.00 at \$17.50

For Misses and Small Women:

(14 to 18 yrs., 32 to 36 bust)  
Regularly \$20.00 at \$13.50  
Regularly \$35.00 to \$42.50 at \$25.00

Also, a Special Sale of

#### Dresses for Girls and Misses

(sizes 6 to 16 yrs.)

Of chevots, serges, albatross, nun's veilings, and Panama, in plain colors or fancy plaids and checks. Regularly \$7.50 to \$16.50 At \$3.95, \$4.95, \$6.50 and \$8.90

#### Gift Jewelry

Presenting countless examples of the best that Europe offers in gold and jewelled novelties—selected especially for their distinctiveness. For Monday:

Mesh Bags, Shirred silver or gold plated engraved and pierced frames. Value \$16.50 \$9.95

Pearl Opera Glasses, fitted with fine achromatic lenses; Oriental, white or smoked pearl. Value \$6.75 \$5.00

Pearl Opera Glasses with lorgnette handle, enamel, white or Oriental pearl. Value \$11.50 \$8.50

Cuff Links of solid 14k gold, in a variety of patterns; Roman, English or rose finish. Value \$7.00 \$5.00

Pearl Studied Brooches of solid gold in a variety of different designs. Value \$15.00 \$9.50

#### Feather Neckwear—Special Sale

Goose Feather Stoles or Round Boas in white, gray, black, sky or pink. Value \$3.50 \$2.45

Heavy Curled Goose Feather Stoles in white, gray, black, sky or pink. Value \$7.00 \$4.95

\$12.50 Marabout Stoles in black or natural. \$9.50

Marabout Muffs, natural color. \$6.50

Ostrich Feather Stoles in white or gray; 4 heavy strands; 2 1/4 yds. Value \$25.00 \$19.00

#### Dressing Gowns, Blanket Robes and House Coats for Men

Dressing Gowns of matelasse velvet, camel's hair, cheviot or quilted silk. \$10.00 to \$45.00

Blanket Robes. \$5.00 to \$22.50

House Coats of double-faced cloths; collars and cuffs of reverse side of fabric; the new long straight edge models; in navy blue, light or dark Oxford gray, maroon, brown or olive; sizes 34 to 48. \$5, \$5.95, \$6.50, \$7.50, \$10, \$12.50 & \$13.50

#### Gift Suggestions

##### JEWELRY

Scarf Pins Stick Pins  
Match Safes Lockets  
Cuff Links Chatelaines  
Tie Clasps Gold Pencils  
Rings Cigar Cases  
Watch Chains Cigarette Cases  
Fobs Cigar Cutters  
Shirt Studs Hat Pins  
Brooches Bracelets  
Pendants Buckles  
Neck Chains Opera Glasses  
Lorgnettes Mesh Bags  
Cuff Pins Festoon Necklaces

##### TRAVELLER'S REQUISITES

Travelling Bags Fitted Rolls  
Fitted Bags Fitted Suit Cases  
Hat Boxes Steamer Rugs

##### STERLING SILVER REQUISITES

Match Boxes Shaving Cups  
Pencils Talcum Bottles  
Pen Knives Mirrors  
Salve Jars Flasks  
Hat Brushes Cloth Brushes  
Cigarette Cases M'ed Combs  
Hair Brushes, Comb, Brush and  
Mirror in Case, Baby Sets,  
Comb and Brush, Mounted  
Whiskers.

##### TOILET REQUISITES

Hat Brushes Shaving Sets  
Military Brushes Infants' Sets  
Nail Brushes French Atomizers  
Bonnet Brushes Cloth Brushes  
Manicure Sets Hair Brushes  
Powder Boxes Hand Mirrors  
Puff Boxes Shaving Mirrors  
Comb and Brush Sets  
Triple Mirrors  
Perfumes and Extracts

##### LEATHER REQUISITES

Envelope Bags Medicine Cases  
Vanity Bags Music Rolls  
Carriage Bags Drinking Cups  
Purses Collar Boxes  
Bill Folds Cuff Boxes  
Wallets Flasks  
Card Cases Pass Cases  
Dressing Cases Belts  
Jewel Cases Opera Glass Bags  
Sewing Boxes Beaded Bags  
Writing Portfolios  
Glove and Handkerchief Boxes  
Clocks in leather cases

##### GLOVES

Cape Gloves Fur Gloves  
Kid Gloves Wool Gloves  
Suede Gloves Cashmere Gloves  
Mocha Gloves Silk Gloves  
Silk Mittens Woolen Mittens  
Silk Lined Gloves  
Wool Lined Gloves

##### SLIPPERS

House Slippers Leggings  
Bath Slippers Dress Slippers  
Dancing Slippers Rubbers  
Felt Slippers Evening Slippers  
Boys' and Girls' Slippers

##### APPAREL FOR MEN

Pajamas Smoking Jackets  
Scarfs Fancy Waistcoats  
House Coats Dressing Gowns  
Bath Robes Handkerchiefs  
Blanket Robes Mufflers  
Suspenders Dress Protectors

##### APPAREL FOR WOMEN

Negligees Bath Robes  
Kimonoes Matinees  
Sweaters Golf Vests  
Norfolk Jackets Fancy Aprons  
Lounge Robes Waists  
Shawls Dressing Sacques

##### APPAREL FOR INFANTS

Coats Layettes  
Dresses Baskets  
Caps Afghans  
Bonnets Booties  
Sweaters Bath Robes  
Wrappers Pillow Slips  
Slippers Nipple Holders  
Sacques Rattles  
Bibs Hamper  
Talcum Boxes Toilet Sets

##### FOR THE BOYS

Bath Robes Hats and Caps  
Blanket Robes Suits  
House Coats Ties  
Pajamas Suspenders

##### UMBRELLAS

Women's Umbrellas  
Children's Umbrellas  
Men's Umbrellas

##### CANES

Ivory Mounted Stag Mounted  
Horn Mounted Silver Inlaid  
Silver Mounted  
Riding Crops

##### AUTOMOBILE APPAREL

Coats Hoods  
Gloves Hats  
Lunch Baskets Robes  
Goggles Luncheon Kits  
Hand Bags Veils

##### STATIONERY

Fountain Pens Address Books  
Desk Pads Book Marks  
Ink Stands Playing Cards  
Paper Weights Telephone List  
Pen Trays Desk Sets  
Poker Sets Christmas Cards  
Box Stationery Diaries  
Calendars Postal Albums  
Engagement Pads  
Bridge Whist Sets  
Physicians' Pads  
Memorandum Books

For Monday and Tuesday,

#### Silk Waists—Special Sale

Messaline Waists—a dainty dress model, elaborated with a combination of Valenciennes and Cluny lace and French knots in white, pink or blue. Value \$7.00 \$4.95

Messaline Waists—beautifully trimmed with Valenciennes or Cluny lace back and front; new shaped collar; in pink, blue, black or ivory. Value \$8.00 \$5.95

Linen Waists—new tailored models, tucked and stitched; also with elaborately embroidered fronts; embroidered linen collar. \$2.98 to \$5.95

Lace and Net Waists \$4.95 to \$16.50

Golf Vests At 98c, \$1.98, \$2.98

Value \$1.50, \$2.50, \$3.75

A Highly Important Sale of

#### Fur Coats & Fur Sets for Women

THE COATS: Long Coats Short Coats  
Black Russian Pony Skin \$65.00 \$29.50  
Black Karakul \$85.00 \$65.00  
Sable Squirrel \$145.00 \$75.00  
Mink \$975.00 \$375.00

FASHIONABLE MUFFS, with SCARFS to MATCH.

Chinchilla The Set \$50.00 Mink The Set \$35.00  
Ermine \$50.00 Black Lynx \$25.00  
White Fox \$49.00 Persian Paw \$12.50  
Blue Lynx \$37.00 Natural Squirrel \$10.50  
Karakul Paw the Set \$7.50

#### Gloves for Men

The most popular of all gifts—even if other things are given, a pair of gloves comes in "handily." They are invariably appreciated.

Our stock is most comprehensive, including every correct shade in kid, suede, mocha, esal buck, chevrete, capeskin, veldeer, reindeer or buckskin. Gloves lined with wool, lamb's wool, silk, mocha or fur.

For Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

#### A Sale of \$6 Shoes for Women at \$3.85

High-grade boots from our own regular stock, in a great range of models, including all of the season's favorites.

Sixteen distinct styles will be found in the assortment. The leathers embrace patent, black Russian calf or kidskin. Choice of kid or cloth tops. Sizes, 2 to 8; widths AA to E.

An Extraordinary Sale of

#### Fine Millinery

A beautiful collection of trimmed hats modelled by our own milliners, in exclusive effects or adaptations from the famous French milliners.

TRIMMED HATS, formerly \$19.50 to \$25, at \$10

TRIMMED HATS, formerly \$14.50 to \$19.50, at \$7.50

#### Sale of Stockings for Women

Fashioned of black, pure thread silk, with reinforced soles, heels and toes. (3 pairs in Holiday Box at \$4.75) \$1.75